

PYRAMUS *and* THISBE:

A
MOCK-OPERA

Written by *SHAKESPEARE*

Set to MUSICK by Mr. LAMPE.

Perform'd at

WALTER HALL

IN
THE EDWARD JOHNSON BUILDING
(FACULTY OF MUSIC)
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Featuring

Members of *THE HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE*
ENSEMBLES

Thursday, November 19, 1998, 12:00 Noon

ARGUMENT

Pyramus and Thisbe were two celebrated Lovers, bred up in Babylon, whose Parents living in neighbouring Houses, they kept up a nightly Correspondence, thro' a Hole in a Wall, that parted their Gardens: They determined, one Evening, to steal from home, and meet, by Moon-light, at an appointed Time, at the Tomb of Ninus, one of the Assyrian Monarchs.

Thisbe came first to the Place of Assignment, where, being unhappily fear'd by a Lion, she fled; leaving her Mantle behind her, in her Fright.

The Lion coming towards the Tomb, and finding the Mantle, in rage, tore it to pieces, leaving it stain'd with Gore; his Mouth being still bloody, with some Prey he had met with before.

The Lion was no sooner gone off, but Pyramus came to the Tomb; seeing his Mistress's Mantle torn and bloody, he concluded she had been devour'd by some wild Beast: and, in Despair, drew his Sword, and kill'd himself.

Thisbe, after being recover'd from her Fear, return'd to the Tomb; where, meeting this miserable Spectacle of Blood and Horror, in her dead Lover, with the same Sword she put an End to her unhappy Life.

Program Notes

John Frederick Lampe's mock-opera *Pyramus and Thisbe* was first performed at the Theatre-Royal in Covent Garden on January 25, 1745. It was adapted from Richard Leveridge's *Comick Masque of Pyramus and Thisbe* of 1716, which in turn was an adaptation of the play-within-a-play from Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, about the two ill-fated lovers who communicate through a hole in the wall.

J.F. Lampe (c. 1703-1751) had arrived in London in about 1724 and worked as a bassoonist in the theatre. He later turned to burlesque opera and met with considerable success. The London audience, with its growing merchant and professional classes, was accustomed to being entertained, and the mock-opera seemed an ideal means to this end. The style and the language were easily understood, and the lampooning of the conventions of Italian opera was appreciated.

The Faculty of Music Historical Performance Ensembles consist of a number of vocal and instrumental groups involved in the interpretation of music according to the style of the time. The ensembles include graduate and undergraduate students at the University of Toronto under the direction of Timothy McGee and Mary Enid Haines, assisted by Naomi Struik.

The *CHARACTERS* in the OPERA are

PYRAMUS	Mark Schaub
THISBE	Glynis Ratcliffe
WALL and	
MOONSHINE	Kelly Campbell
LION	Jose Gotera
Mr. SEMIBRIEF	Tom Castaldo
1st GENTLEMAN	Stephen Roe
2nd GENTLEMAN	Mark Michalak
MASTER	Mary Enid Haines
PROMPTER	Sarah Carleton

The ORCHESTRA

Violin I	David Wilson
Violin II	Sarah Rukkila
Viola	Beverlee Rapp
Cello	Kristen Wanner
Flute	Naomi Struik
Oboe	Roseanne Wieringa
Horn	Drew Stephen
Harpsichord	Ilya Poletaev

Music Director	Jose Gotera
Stage Director	Kelly Campbell
Publicity	Glynis Ratcliffe
Program and	
Rehearsal Harpsichordist	Sarah Carleton

*This production was planned and produced by the students of the **Performance Project Class**: Kelly Campbell, Sarah Carleton, Jose Gotera and Glynis Ratcliffe.*

Vancouver born singer/actor **Kelly Campbell** has performed on the professional stage since she was twelve years old. Roles have included Bastienna in *Bastien and Bastienna* with the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus; First Spirit in the Opera Atelier and Opera Hamilton productions of *The Magic Flute*; and Barbarina in Opera Atelier's *The Marriage of Figaro*. Miss Campbell originated the roles of The Robber Girl in the 1993 world premiere of John Greer's *The Snow Queen*, the stage role of Sarah in Opera Atelier's *Mozart's Magic Fantasy* and the stage role of Katarina in the Classical Kids' symphony tour *Vivaldi's Ring of Mystery*.

Last March, Miss Campbell appeared as Barbarina in Opera Atelier's tour of the *The Marriage of Figaro* at Bunkamura Hall in Tokyo, Japan. She recently repeated the role with OA at Toronto's Royal Alexandra Theatre. Miss Campbell is featured as Jenny on the Classical Kids recording *Tchaikovsky Discovers America*.

Jose Gotera is a fourth-year Music History major with an interest in voice. He has performed with Tafelmusik for three years. Jose hopes to study art song abroad at the post-graduate level.

Glynis Ratcliffe is currently in her fourth year of her Bachelor of Music in Performance at the University of Toronto. Currently studying with Lois McDonall, Glynis is focusing on early music repertoire, French and German art song and expanding her knowledge of contemporary music. She plans to continue her studies in England.

Currently enrolled in the Performance Degree in Voice at the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto, tenor **Mark Schaub** has a diverse background. He has a BSc. from the University of Waterloo and the experience of serving with the Mennonite Central Committee in Indonesia for ten months. Mr. Schaub sings in several choirs including the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and the Elora Festival Singers. He is a member of the Quivis Quintet, an ensemble dedicated to performing intimate vocal works of the Renaissance and Early Baroque. Recently Mark made his solo debut with the Mendelssohn Choir in Richard Einhorn's *Voices of Light*. In June 1998 he was the recipient of the prestigious Greta Kraus Scholarship.

The members of the Performance Project Class would like to thank coaches Timothy McGee, Mary Enid Haines and Naomi Struik for their help and dedication to the project.